

Backcountry Camp Capacity

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

North Cascades National Park
Lake Chelan National Recreation Area
Ross Lake National Recreation Area



This information may occasionally change, as camps are washed out, rebuilt, or temporarily inaccessible due to backcountry conditions. Confirm at a ranger station when you pick up your backcountry permit. This information is also available online at www.nps.gov/noca

Camp Name	Elev. (in feet)	Access	Camp Sites (number and capacity)	Toilet	Fires allowed?	Food Storage	Comments
39 Mile	1715	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
39 Mile Stock	1715	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Basin Creek	3110	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	No	Box	Rebuilt w/ 3 sites in 2008, west side of creek, shared cooking area
Bear Creek	2260	Hiker	4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Site is somewhat overgrown.
Beaver Pass	3654	Hiker	4,8	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Beaver Pass Stock	3654	Stock	4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Bench Creek	3766	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Big Beaver	1604	Boat, Hiker	12,8,8,8,8,8	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock
Big Beaver Stock	1604	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Box	
Boundary	4445	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	No	Box	
Boundary Bay	1622	Boat	8,8,12	Vault	Yes	Box	
Bowan	4383	Hiker	4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Bridge Creek	2112	Hiker	4,4,4,4,4,4	Vault	Yes	Box	One site has lean-to
Bridge Creek Group	2112	Hiker	12,12	Vault	Yes	Box	Located west and north of Hiker Camp, ~50 yds down wide trail (old road) past Fish & Game cabin
Bridge Creek Stock	2112	Stock	8	Vault	Yes	Box	Built in 2010; Located next to corral; bearbox @ hiker camp; tent pads lightly used and somewhat overgrown.
Bullion	1616	Hiker	See Comments	Vault	Yes	Box	Closed due to root rot around camp - new camp planned at some point, but for now this a day use area.
Buster Brown	1325	Boat	4,4,4	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock; Bear box added 2011
Cat Island	1637	Boat	12,4,4,4	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock, No wood gathering on island
Copper Creek	3123	Hiker	4,4,4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Camp split by Copper Creek, sites on both sides of creek
Copper Lake	5265	Hiker	4,4,4	Composter	No	Box	Fragile vegetation in area
Cosho	3988	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	

Cottonwood	2752	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Box	Rebuilt in 2009.
Cougar Island	1624	Boat	6,6	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock, No wood gathering on island
Dagger Lake	5508	Hiker	12	Pit	Yes	Wire	
Dagger Stock	5508	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Wire	Hitch rails fixed 2011
Dan's	3971	Hiker	4	Pit	Yes	Wire	Small site. Room for two small tents only.
Deerlick Stock	1932	Stock	6,6	Pit	Yes	Hang	Rebuilt in 2010.
Desolation	5564	Hiker	8	Pit	No	Canister	Bear can required; No water after snows melt
Devils Creek Stock	1807	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Devils Hiker	1807	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Closest water source is at stock camp
Devils Junction	1673	Boat, Hiker	8	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock
Dry Creek	1617	Boat	4,4,4,12	Vault	Yes	Box	
Egg Lake	5173	Hiker	4,4,4	Composter	No	Box	
Fireweed	3635	Hiker	4,8	Pit	Yes	Wire / Hang	Bear wire at lower camp only. Cook area separate from tent pads.
Fireweed Stock	3635	Stock	8,12	Pit	Yes	Wire / canister	Bear wire only at upper stock camp
Fisher	5252	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	No	Hang / canister	High bear activity. Very challenging to hang food properly.
Five Mile Stock	3940	Stock, Hiker	4,4,8	Pit	Yes	Hang	Flood damaged, small creeks running through camp; do not use damaged bear wire
Flat Creek	2290	Hiker	6,6	Pit	Yes	Box	Located on south side of Stehekin River, on the Flat Creek Trail, not the Upper Stehekin Valley Trail
Flick Creek	1,100	Boat, Hiker	4,4	Pit	Yes	Box	1 shelter, floating dock with 4 boat slots, NPS camp but no permit required--USFS dock permit required
Fourth of July	3438	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	No	Hang	
Graybeal	3123	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Graybeal Stock	3123	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Green Point	1686	Boat, Hiker	4,4,8,8,12	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock
Grizzly Creek	3133	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Wire	Camp rebuilt in 2012, new location (south of Grizzly Creek).
Harlequin	1210	Hiker	4,4,4,4,4,4	Vault	Yes	Box	Located on south side of Stehekin River, across Harlequin Bridge from the Stehekin Valley Road
Harlequin Group	1210	Hiker	24	Vault	Yes	Box	Roadside camp: parties of 12-24 can reserve group site
Heaton Stock	7000	Hiker, Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	Water source can dry up by mid-summer after low snowpack winters
Hidden Cove	1269	Boat	4	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock; Bear box new in 2011
Hidden Hand	2276	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	

Hidden Meadows Stock	6498	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	No wood gathering within 1/4 mile of camp
Hideaway	3585	Hiker	12	Pit	Yes	Wire	Cook area separate from tent pads
High	6000	Hiker	4	Pit	No	Wire	No water near camp late in season
High Bridge	1653	Hiker	6,6	Vault	Yes	Box	One shelter; located on west side of Stehekin River, not at High Bridge Ranger Cabin; access is from Stehekin Valley Road
Hooter	2677	Hiker	4	Pit	No	Canister	Burned in 2010, watch for falling snags; Rebuilt 2011, new toilet. No bear wire and no trees for hanging food!
Hozomeen Lake	2821	Hiker	4,4,12	Pit	Yes	Hang / wire	Bear wire at group site and one small site, otherwise hang from trees; Closed Apr. 1 – May 31 for nesting loons
Indian Creek	2352	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Johannesberg	3648	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	No	Hang or store in car	Access trail located 200 yards before Cascade Pass trailhead.
Juanita Lake	6676	Hiker	4,4	Composter	No	Hang	
Juanita Lake Stock	6676	Stock	12	Pit	No	Hang	Toilet in poor shape, use composter at hiker site
Junction	3129	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang/ Canister	Minimal options for hanging food from a single tree close to camp; hanging requires highlining unless hanging some distance from sites
Junction Stock	3129	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	South of Junction Camp on Thunder Creek Trail
Lightning Creek	1617	Boat, Hiker	8,8,12,8,8	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock
Lightning Creek Stock	1617	Boat, Stock	8,8	Vault	Yes	Box	
Little Beaver	1607	Boat, Hiker	4,8,8,8,12	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock; shelter at group site
Little Chilliwick	2070	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Camp washed out, not maintained
Lodgepole	1656	Boat, Hiker	8,8,8	Vault	Yes	Box	
Luna	2518	Hiker	4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Manly Wham	1,100	Boat	4,4	Vault	Yes	Box	Floating dock with 2 boat slots, NPS camp but no permit required--USFS dock permit required
May Creek	1640	Boat, Hiker	6	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock
May Creek Stock	1640	Stock	8	Pit	Yes	Hang	
McAlester Lake	5547	Hiker	8,4	Pit	Yes	Wire/ hang	Bear wire at larger site
McAlester Stock	5547	Stock	8	Pit	Yes	Hang	

McAllister	1900	Hiker	4,4,4,4,12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
McAllister Stock	1900	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
McMillan	1679	Boat	8,8,12	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock
Monogram Lake	4872	Hiker	4,4	Composter	No	Hang / Canister	Bears seen frequently! Rebuilt in 2012. Both sites have separate tenting and cook areas.
Moore Point (USFS)	1,100	Boat, Hiker	4,4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Box	1 shelter, fixed dock with 3 boat slots, USFS dock permit required for boat campers
Neve	1381	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Tent pads moved away from edge of eroding bank, each site has cook area separated from tent pads. For safety, do not camp near edge of eroding stream bank.
Newhalem Creek Stock	1800	Stock, Hiker	8	Cathole		Hang	No facilities, unmaintained, not recommended for hikers or stock parties.
Nightmare	3142	Hiker	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
North Fork	2559	Hiker	12,4	Pit	Yes	Wire	Bears frequently in camp and have gotten food in the past.; Cook area separate from tent pads
Panther	2460	Hiker	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	Rebuilt in 2012
Park Creek	2332	Hiker	4,4	Pit	Yes	Box	
Pelton Basin	4849	Hiker	4,4,4	Composter	No	Box	2 night maximum stay
Perry Creek	2080	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Cook areas (with fire pit) are separated from tent pads areas
Pierce Mountain	5400	Hiker	4	Pit	No	Hang / Canister	Small tent site; difficult to find proper hang; water source is a stillwater pond by mid-season.
Ponderosa	1660	Boat	12,12	Vault	Yes	Box	
Prince Creek (USFS)	1,100	Boat, Hiker	4,4,4,4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Box	Floating dock with 3 boat slots, USFS dock permit required for boat campers
Pumpkin Mountain	1614	Hiker	4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Sites are forested. There is access to Ross Lake shoreline, which is open to day use (no camping allowed on shoreline).
Purple Point	1167	Hiker	4,4,4,4,4,4	Flush	Yes	Box	Roadside camp, has running water. Small sites--groups of more than 8 use Purple Point Overflow
Purple Point Overflow	1167	Hiker	4,4,4,4	Vault	No	Box	Public toilet facility at Golden West Visitor Center is also an option, no picnic tables or firerings
Purple Point Stock	1167	Stock	4	None	Yes	Box	Corral available. Use public toilet facility or vault toilets at Purple Point Overflow.
Rainbow Bridge	2040	Hiker	4,4	Pit	Yes	Wire	Camp and surrounding area burned in 2010
Rainbow Ford	3179	Hiker	4	Pit	Yes	Hang	small tent pad; toilet is south of camp, uphill of Rainbow Creek Trail

Rainbow Lake	5630	Hiker	4,4	Pit	No	Hang	
Rainbow Meadows	4920	Hiker	8	Pit	Yes	Hang	Southernmost of Rainbow Meadows camps
Rainbow Meadows Group	4960	Hiker	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	Northernmost of Rainbow Meadows camps
Rainbow Meadows Stock	4960	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	Middle Rainbow Meadow camp
Rainbow Point	1686	Boat, Hiker	8,8,8	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock
Rennie	4081	Hiker	4	Pit	Yes	Wire	Room for 2 small tents only
Reynolds	5663	Hiker	4	None	Yes	Hang	No sign to hiker camp, one tent pad accessed via stock camp; use toilet at stock camp.
Reynolds Stock	5663	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Wire	
Roland Creek	1761	Hiker	8,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Roland Point	1673	Boat	8	Vault	Yes	Box	
Ruby Pasture Stock	2053	Stock	6	Pit	Yes	Hang	Water access .25 miles at Hidden Hand Creek; no hitch rails, must highline stock.
Sahale Glacier	7686	Hiker	4,4,4,4,4,4	Composter	No	Canister	Very exposed camp at toe of glacier
Shady	1942	Hiker	8	Vault	Yes	Wire	Access is from PCT/Old Wagon Trail, 0.5mi down spur trail
Silesia	5649	Hiker	4,4	Composter	No	Box	No water at camp after snow melt; 0.4 mi. to water at Egg Lake
Silver Creek	1607	Boat	8,12	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock
Six Mile	2946	Hiker	12	Pit	Yes	Wire	Cook area separate from tent pads
Skagit Queen	2772	Hiker	4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Sourdough	5055	Hiker	4	Pit	No	Hang / Canister	Room for 2 small tents only
South Fork	3208	Hiker	4,4	Pit	Yes	Wire	Cook area separate from tent pads
South Fork Stock	3208	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Wire	
Spencer's	1653	Boat	8,8	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock; camp is on an island at full pool
Stillwell	2486	Hiker	4,4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Sulphide Creek	905	Hiker	8,8	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Ten Mile Island	1640	Boat	4,4,4	Vault	Yes	Box	No wood gathering on islands
Thornton Lakes	4504	Hiker	4,4,4	Composter	No	Hang / Canister	Steep rock scramble and crossing logjam at outlet of lake required to get to camp.
Thunder	1354	Hiker	4,4,12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Thunder Basin	4900	Hiker	4,4	Composter	No	Hang / Canister	Thin trees, hanging food requires high line; canisters recommended - bears seen frequently

Thunder Basin Stock	4100	Stock	4	Pit	Yes	Hang / Canister	Bears seen frequently. Water flows through/near site during wet weather and early-season snow melt.
Thunder Point	1256	Boat	4,4,4	Vault	Yes	Box	Dock; Bear box added 2011
Trapper Inlet	4163	Hiker	4	None	No	Canister	No Trail – allow extra travel time for routefinding; dig cathole 200' from water for human waste; bears frequently in area, no trees for hanging.
Trapper Outlet	4284	Hiker	4,4	None	No	Hang	No Trail – allow extra travel time for routefinding; dig cathole for human waste
Tricouni	1971	Hiker	4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Small sites
Tumwater	1742	Hiker	4,4	Vault	Yes	Box	Located along Stehekin Valley Road, no direct access from PCT/Old Wagon Trail
Twin Rocks	2703	Hiker	6,6	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Twin Rocks Stock	2703	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Two Mile	3412	Hiker	4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Washed out in past floods; 1 tent pad now exists, under wire. Recommend NOT using bear wire--it is located directly over current tent pad! Toilet is ~300 feet south of camp.
U.S Cabin Stock	2595	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Hang	
U.S. Cabin	2595	Hiker	4,4,4,4	Pit	Yes	Hang	
Walker Park Stock	3051	Stock	12	Pit	Yes	Wire	Rehabbed in 2012 to increase capacity
Weaver Point	1,100	Boat, Hiker	16 tent sites	Flush & Pit	Yes	Box	Floating dock with 16 boat slots, 4 hose bibs with potable water, NPS camp but no permit required--USFS dock permit required for boat campers
Whatcom	5055	Hiker	4,4,4	Composter	No	Hang / Canister	Bears observed frequently. Not many trees suitable for hanging--food canister strongly recommended.
Willow Lake	2854	Hiker	4	Pit	Yes	Hang	Often flooded in early season

KEY

Access – Hiker (foot trail), Stock (hitch rails, designated stock camp), or Boat (on the water)

(Note: stock parties must use stock camps; all stock camps are also hiker accessible, but stock parties have preference; camps that indicate Boat only are not accessible via a trail)

Campsites – This column shows the number of sites at each camp, and the total capacity of the camp (i.e. A camp listed as 4,4,4 has 3 sites that can each hold up to 4 people)

Toilet

1. Pit – A simple hole in the ground covered with a box toilet platform for sitting. Primarily in low elevation areas. Pack out all toilet paper, feminine products, and trash.
2. Composter – A self-contained toilet that composts human waste. Primarily in higher elevations or areas where the soils are too thin to dig pit toilets. Do not urinate in toilet, makes toilet too wet to function properly. Pack out all toilet paper, feminine products, and trash.
3. Vault – A self contained outhouse-style toilet, periodically pumped out. Located primarily in accessible areas such as Ross and Diablo Lakes and some Stehekin Valley camps. Toilet paper, urine, and grey water are fine, but do not deposit any food or trash in these toilets.

Food storage options – Food, trash, toiletries, and other scented items must always be properly secured from wildlife whenever you are not actively preparing meals.

1. Hang – Bring a light line at least 50 feet or longer in length, and be prepared to hang food, etc., at least 10 feet up and 5 feet out from the trunk of a tree. This may be accomplished via highline (suspending food between branches on two separate trees), counterbalance, or a traditional food hang over a single large branch. If you are not sure how to hang your food safely out of the reach of wildlife, ask at a Ranger station.
2. Box – Food storage lockers have been installed at all Ross and Diablo Lake camps, some Stehekin Valley road camps, and a few wilderness camps. These are large, wildlife resistant lockers into which all food and other scented items can be placed. The boxes lock to keep wildlife out.
3. Canisters – Often referred to as “bear cans,” these animal resistant food storage canisters are used in areas where trees are scarce and/or bear activity is traditionally high. All food and scented items are stored in the can, which is then placed away from your camp in a secure location (i.e. in rocks or brush so it will not roll away). Canisters are available for free loan at all Park Ranger stations.
4. Wire - Often referred to as “bear wires,” these are metal cables between two trees that are installed in areas where the available tree limbs are too small and/or angled downward such that it is very difficult to do a proper food hang. Campers must still have their own rope to throw over the wire in order to haul their food up to the proper height (10 feet / 3 meters).

Comments – Additional points of interest or notable qualities about specific camps

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